

# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY Washington, DC 20240

June 13, 2022

Via email: michael.ding@aflegal.org

Michael Ding America First Legal Foundation 611 Pennsylvania Ave SE #231 Washington, DC 20003

Dear Mr. Ding:

The Office of the Secretary FOIA office received your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated June 10, 2022, on June 10, 2022, and assigned it control number **DOI-OS-2022-004193.** Please cite this number in any future communications with our office regarding your request.

The Department's "strategic plan," that was required by Section 3(b) of Executive Order 14019 (March 7, 2021) on "Promoting Access to Voting," to be sub-mitted to the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy by September 23, 2021.

### **Fee Category**

We have classified you as a representative of the news media. As such, we may charge you for some of our duplication costs, but we will not charge you for our search or review costs; you also are entitled to up to 100 pages of photocopies (or an equivalent volume) for free. See 43 C.F.R. § 2.39. If, after taking into consideration your fee category entitlements, our processing costs are less than \$50.00, we will not bill you because the cost of collection would be greater than the fee collected. See 43 C.F.R. § 2.37(g)

#### Fee Waiver

You have requested a fee waiver for this request. As a "news media" requester, we believe that your fee category entitlements will result in a fee less than \$50. We do not bill requesters for FOIA processing fees when their fees are less than \$50.00, because the cost of collection would be greater than the fee collected. See 43 C.F.R. § 2.37(g). Because of this, we believe your request for a fee waiver may be moot. Therefore, we do not anticipate that there will be a billable fee for the processing of this request. Should this change during the course of processing your request, and anticipate a fee being charged, we will provide a formal determination of your fee waiver request.

Mr. Michael Ding

# **Processing Track**

We use Multitrack Processing to process FOIA requests. The Simple track is for requests that would generally take one to five workdays to process. The Normal track is for requests that would generally take six to twenty workdays to process. The Complex track is for requests that would generally take twenty-one to sixty workdays to process. The Extraordinary track is for requests that would generally take more than sixty workdays to process. The Expedited track is for requests that have been granted expedited processing, which are processed as soon as practicable. Within each track, requests are usually processed on a first-in, first-out basis.

Your request falls into the Simple processing track. See 43 C.F.R. §§ 2.14, .15

## **Format of Records**

You have asked for copies of agency records. According to our regulations, you may choose the format of disclosure for such records. Unless you specify otherwise, the Office of the Secretary will provide copies of responsive records electronically via email or CD-ROM as scanned PDF images when the responsive records exceed 50 pages.

#### **10-Workday Extension**

Because we will need to search for and collect requested records from field facilities or other units that are separate from the office processing the request, we are taking a 10-workday extension under 43 C.F.R. § 2.19.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of FOIA. See <u>5 U.S.C. 552(c)</u>. This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

The 2007 FOIA amendments created the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation.

You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road - OGIS
College Park, MD 20740-6001
E-mail: ogis@nara.gov

Web: https://www.archives.gov/ogis
Telephone: 202-741-5770

Mr. Michael Ding

Fax: 202-741-5769 Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

If you have any questions about this letter extending the due date, you may contact us by fax at 202-219-2374, by email at <a href="mailto:os\_foia@ios.doi.gov">os\_foia@ios.doi.gov</a>, or by mail at U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Contact information for the Department's FOIA Public Liaison, who you may also seek dispute resolution services from, is available at <a href="https://www.doi.gov/foia/foiacenters">https://www.doi.gov/foia/foiacenters</a>.

Sincerely,

Leah Fairman
Deputy FOIA Officer
Office of the Secretary
FOIA Office